

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

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R 061127Z MAR 75

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 853

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 082

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, U.K.(N.I.)

SUBJECT: SECSTATE REES REASSURES PROTESTANT PARAMILITARIES

REF: BELFAST 77

1. GLENN BARR SPOKESMAN FOR ULSTER LOYALIST CENTRAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (ULCCC) ANNOUNCED EVENING MARCH 5 LOYALIST PARAMILITARY GROUPS ACCEPTED PLEDGE BY SECSTATE REES TO RESTORE FULL POLICING BY ROYAL ULSTER CONSTABULARY (RUC) IN ALL AREAS AND PARAMILITARIES WERE THEREFORE SUSPENDING THEIR OWN PATROL ACTIVITIES. BARR ADDED COMMITTEE RESERVED RIGHT TO RECONSIDER DECISION IF IT APPEARED ASSURANCES WERE NOT RPT NOT BEING FOLLOWED. IN RADIO INTERVIEW BARR INDICATED LOYALISTS HAD ALSO MODIFIED SOMEWHAT IN THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARD UNOFFICIAL INCIDENT CENTERS IN LIGHT CONVERSATION MARCH 4 WITH SECSTATE REES. SO LONG AS (PROVISIONAL SINN FEIN) INCIDENT CENTERS PERFORMED FUNCTION OF ASSISTING MONITOR CEASEFIRE AND DID NOT RPT NOT ATTEMPT TAKE ON POLICING ROLE, BARR SAID, LOYALISTS WOULD NOT RPT NOT PRESS FOR THEIR REMOVAL BY AUTHORITIES.

2. CURRENT SHOOTING FEUD APPARENTLY BETWEEN IRISH
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REPUBLICAN SOCIALIST PARTY (IRSP) AND OFFICIAL IRISH

REPUBLICAN ARMY APPEARS NOT RPT NOT BE SUSCEPTIBLE SOLUTION BY GOVERNMENT OR SECURITY FORCES. MEMBERS WARRING FACTIONS KNOW EACH OTHER WELL AND USING KNOWLEDGE TO CHOOSE TARGETS AND TIMING. THERE AT LEAST FOUR WOUNDINGS BY SHOOTING WITHIN PAST TWO DAYS AND TWO ABORTIVE BOMB ATTACKS WHICH APPEAR BE RESULTS FEUD.

3. MOST FEUDING CONFINED BELFAST AND LEVEL VIOLENCE PROVINCE DRAMATICALLY BELOW THAT WHEN PROVISIONALS ACTIVE. SECURITY FORCES, PRIMARILY ARMY, MAKING SIGNIFICANT FINDS GUNS AND EXPLOSIVES SOME BELIEVED BE PROTESTANT CACHES. SINCE THESE FINDS RESULT SPOT OPERATIONS RATHER THAN MASS SEARCHES INDICATIONS ARE ARMY RECEIVING GOOD INFORMATION. THIS IN TURN IS INDICATION OF PREVAILING MOOD AMONG NORTHERN IRELAND POPULACE WHICH OVERWHELMINGLY FOR CONTINUATION GENERALLY PEACEFUL CONDITIONS.

SPICER

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